

**(e) Suspension or termination**

If, as a result of a referendum conducted under subsection (d) of this section, the Secretary determines that suspension or termination of the order is favored by a simple majority of all votes cast in the referendum, the Secretary shall—

- (1) not later than 180 days after the referendum, suspend or terminate, as appropriate, collection of assessments under the order; and
- (2) suspend or terminate, as appropriate, activities under the order as soon as practicable and in an orderly manner.

(Pub. L. 106-387, §1(a) [title XII, §1206], Oct. 28, 2000, 114 Stat. 1549, 1549A-91.)

**§ 7806. Petition and review****(a) Petition and hearing****(1) Petition**

A person subject to an order may file with the Secretary a petition—

- (A) stating that the order, any provision of the order, or any obligation imposed in connection with the order is not in accordance with law; and
- (B) requesting a modification of the order or an exemption from the order.

**(2) Hearing**

The petitioner shall be given the opportunity for a hearing on a petition filed under paragraph (1), in accordance with regulations issued by the Secretary. Any such hearing shall be conducted in accordance with section 7808(b)(2) of this title and be held within the United States judicial district in which the residence or principal place of business of the person is located.

**(3) Ruling**

After a hearing under paragraph (2), the Secretary shall make a ruling on the petition, which shall be final if in accordance with law.

**(4) Limitation**

Any petition filed under this subsection challenging an order, any provision of the order, or any obligation imposed in connection with the order, shall be filed within 2 years after the effective date of the order, provision, or obligation subject to challenge in the petition.

**(b) Review****(1) Commencement of action**

The district courts of the United States in any district in which a person who is a petitioner under subsection (a) of this section resides or conducts business shall have jurisdiction to review the ruling of the Secretary on the petition of the person, if a complaint requesting the review is filed no later than 20 days after the date of the entry of the ruling by the Secretary.

**(2) Process**

Service of process in proceedings under this subsection shall be conducted in accordance with the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure.

**(3) Remand**

If the court in a proceeding under this subsection determines that the ruling of the Sec-

retary on the petition of the person is not in accordance with law, the court shall remand the matter to the Secretary with directions—

- (A) to make such ruling as the court shall determine to be in accordance with law; or
- (B) to take such further action as, in the opinion the court, the law requires.

**(c) Enforcement**

The pendency of proceedings instituted under this section shall not impede, hinder, or delay the Attorney General or the Secretary from obtaining relief under section 7807 of this title.

(Pub. L. 106-387, §1(a) [title XII, §1207], Oct. 28, 2000, 114 Stat. 1549, 1549A-92.)

## REFERENCES IN TEXT

The Federal Rules of Civil Procedure, referred to in subsec. (b)(2), are set out in the Appendix to Title 28, Judiciary and Judicial Procedure.

**§ 7807. Enforcement****(a) Jurisdiction**

A district court of the United States shall have jurisdiction to enforce, and to prevent and restrain any person from violating, this chapter or an order or regulation issued by the Secretary under this chapter.

**(b) Referral to Attorney General**

A civil action brought under subsection (a) of this section shall be referred to the Attorney General for appropriate action, except that the Secretary is not required to refer to the Attorney General a violation of this chapter, or an order or regulation issued under this chapter, if the Secretary believes that the administration and enforcement of this chapter would be adequately served by administrative action under subsection (c) of this section or suitable written notice or warning to the person who committed or is committing the violation.

**(c) Civil penalties and orders****(1) Civil penalties****(A) In general**

A person who violates a provision of this chapter, or an order or regulation issued by the Secretary under this chapter, or who fails or refuses to pay, collect, or remit any assessment or fee required of the person under an order or regulation issued under this chapter, may be assessed by the Secretary—

- (i) a civil penalty of not less than \$1,000 nor more than \$10,000 for each violation; and
- (ii) in the case of a willful failure to remit an assessment as required by an order or regulation, an additional penalty equal to the amount of the assessment.

**(B) Separate offenses**

Each violation shall be a separate offense.

**(2) Cease and desist orders**

In addition to or in lieu of a civil penalty under paragraph (1), the Secretary may issue an order requiring a person to cease and desist from continuing a violation of this chapter, or an order or regulation issued under this chapter.